

Message Text

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ACTION EB-11

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ISO-00 CAB-09 CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00

DOT-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 RSC-01 FAA-00 PRS-01 PA-04

USIA-15 L-03 H-03 SS-20 PM-07 DRC-01 /111 W

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P R 091609Z MAY 74

FM AMEMBASSY VIENNA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 2712

INFO USMISSION BERLIN

AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY BERN

AMCONSUL ZURICH

USMISSION NATO

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ETRN, PGOV, WB, DA, AU, SZ

SUBJECT: CIVAIR: BERLIN INTERNATIONAL AIR SERVICES

REFS: A) VIENNA 3982; B) STATE 69872; C) VIENNA 3831

1. ACTING DCM AND ECONCOUNS MET WITH ACTING FONOFF
DIRECTOR GENERAL MARQUET AND CHIEF OF POLITICAL
DEPARTMENT STEINER, MAY 7, TO MAKE FOLLOW-UP APPROACH
DESCRIBED REF A. WE STRESSED POLITICAL SIGNIFI-
CANCE OF PROPOSED PAN AM BERLIN-VIENNA SERVICE IN
CONTEXT OF STRENGTHENING WEST BERLIN'S ECONOMIC
VIABILITY AND EMPHASIZED GREAT IMPORTANCE USG ATTACHES
TO INCREASING SERVICES FROM WEST BERLIN VIA CORRIDORS
TO KEY EUROPEAN CITIES SUCH AS VIENNA. WE NOTED THIS
WOULD NOT ONLY GIVE A BOOST TO WEST BERLIN'S INDUSTRY
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AND COMMERCE BUT WOULD ALSO HAVE VALUABLE BENEFITS

FOR BOTH WEST BERLIN AND AUSTRIAN TOURISM. WE OBSERVED THAT THERE WERE UNDOUBTEDLY GOOD PROSPECTS FOR TOURIST AND BUSINESS TRAVEL AS DEMONSTRATED BY FREQUENT PAN AM CHARTERS FROM BERLIN TO GRAZ WHICH GOA HAS APPROVED WITHOUT DIFFICULTY.

2. WE AGAIN REVIEWED AVIATION CONSIDERATIONS REF B. BOTH MARQUET AND STEINER SAID THEY UNDERSTOOD POLITICAL ASPECTS OF US PROPOSAL AND AGREED THEY HAVE MUCH MERIT. HOWEVER, WITH REGARD TO OUR REQUEST TO RECEIVE ASSURANCES FROM THE GOA THAT SUCH SERVICE WOULD BE PERMITTED UNDER THE BILATERAL AGREEMENT, MARQUET SAID THAT FIRST REACTIONS FROM DR. VOGL OF CIVIL AVIATION DEPARTMENT HAD NOT BEEN FAVORABLE. FOR ONE THING VOGL HAD CONTENDED THAT LANGUAGE IN CURRENT BILATERAL REGARDING INTERMEDIATE POINTS WOULD NOT PERMIT SEPARATE TURN-AROUND SERVICE ENVISAGED BY US. FURTHER, SUCH SERVICE WOULD INVOLVE "SIXTH FREEDOM RIGHTS." TURNING TO LETTER WHICH VOGL HAD SENT TO FONMIN, MARQUET NOTED THAT COMPLICATING FACTOR WAS THAT HISTORY OF PAN AM'S INVOLVEMENT IN OVERSEAS NATIONAL AIRWAYS CASE HAD LEFT "BAD TASTE" IN CIVIL AVIATION DEPARTMENT.

3. WE COUNTERED BY POINTING OUT THAT ONA ISSUE WAS UNRELATED TO US REQUEST. MARQUET AGREED THAT ONA CASE WAS MATTER OF ATMOSPHERICS BUT SAID CAB HEARING HAD BEEN SCHEDULED AND THAT CAB APPROVAL STILL OUTSTANDING. HE SAID THAT HE WOULD HAVE TO FURTHER EXAMINE MATTER WITH MINISTER FISCHER, FONMIN AVIATION EXPERT, UPON LATTER'S RETURN FROM AN OVERSEAS TRIP NEXT WEEK BUT EXPRESSED VIEW HE WAS NOT SANGUINE THAT GOA COULD AGREE TO US INTERPRETATION OF BILATERAL FOR SEPARATE BERLIN-VIENNA TURN-AROUND SERVICE. SITUATION WOULD BE DIFFERENT, HE ADDED, IF FLIGHTS WERE TO ORIGINATE IN US WITH WEST BERLIN AS INTERMEDIATE POINT.

4. SINCE IT WAS CLEAR THAT GOA WILL HAVE GREAT DIFFICULTIES WITH OUR INTERPRETATION, WE THEN PROCEEDED TO SUGGEST THAT WE WERE AMENABLE TO AN AMENDMENT TO THE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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AGREEMENT OR A SEPARATE EXCHANGE OF NOTES TO PROVIDE THE NECESSARY AUTHORITY, AGAIN STRESSING OUR BROAD POLITICAL INTEREST IN COMMENCING BERLIN-VIENNA SERVICE ABOUT JUNE 1. MARQUET REPLIED THAT ANYTHING INVOLVING A NEW SERVICE BY A FOREIGN CARRIER FROM AUSTRIA TO THIRD COUNTRY DESTINATIONS WOULD UNDER AUSTRIAN CIVIL AVIATION LEGISLATION REQUIRE APPROVAL BY PARLIAMENT AND THUS WOULD HAVE TO BE CHanneled THROUGH MINISTERIAL

COUNCIL -- A TIME CONSUMING PROCESS.

5. WE INDICATED THAT GOA SHOULD NEVERTHELESS CONSIDER ALTERNATIVE WAYS OF ACCOMPLISHING OUR GOAL AND REQUESTED AN EARLY FURTHER MEETING. MARQUET SAID THAT HE WANTED OPPORTUNITY TO DISCUSS MATTER FURTHER WITH FISCHER AND VOGL, ADDING THAT HE WAS NOT AWARE THAT AUSTRIAN AIR LINES ITSELF HAD AS YET TAKEN POSITION ON THE MATTER. HE AGREED TO HAVE FURTHER MEETING WITH EMBASSY NEXT WEEK WITH POSSIBLE PARTICIPATION OF OTHER GOA OFFICIALS INVOLVED.

6. COMMENT: AS EMBASSY ANTICIPATED (REF C), CIVIL AVIATION DEPARTMENT'S VERY NEGATIVE VIEWS ON OUR INTERPRETATION OF BILATERAL HAVE REACHED THE FOREIGN OFFICE, WHICH HAS TO TAKE THEM INTO ACCOUNT. UNLESS DEPARTMENT CAN PROVIDE ARGUMENTATION AGAINST VOGL'S POINTS AND SOME CONVINCING RATIONALE THAT PROPOSED FLIGHTS WOULD BE COVERED BY BILATERAL, IT APPEARS THA
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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: CIVIL AVIATION, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, AIR ROUTES, MEETINGS, AVIATION AGREEMENTS, BERLIN AIR CORRIDORS, COMMERCE & INDUSTRY
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 09 MAY 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: golinofr
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974VIENNA04153
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D740113-0384
From: VIENNA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t19740559/aaaacayi.tel
Line Count: 130
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION EB
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: A) VIENNA 3982; B) STATE 69872; C) V, IENNA 3831
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: golinofr
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags: ANOMALY
Review Date: 25 MAR 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <25 MAR 2002 by collinp0>; APPROVED <07 MAY 2002 by golinofr>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: CIVAIR: BERLIN INTERNATIONAL AIR SERVICES
TAGS: ETRN, PGOV, WB, DA, AU, SZ, US, BERLIN INTERNATIONAL AIR SERVICES, PAN AM
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005